Welcome!
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) welcomes you to the 2020-21 General Operating Support panel review. The purpose of the General Operating Support (GOS) grant program is to strengthen the community by providing meaningful, multi-year core support grants to arts and cultural organizations based in and serving Cuyahoga County. During the panel review, arts and cultural experts from across the country (who are educated in CAC’s funding criteria) discuss and score applications.

Note: Applicant participation is not required, but is strongly recommended.

Questions? Contact Heather Johnson-Banks at hjohnsonbanks@cacgrants.org or 216-515-8303.

INTERACTIVE PANEL PROCESS

Applicants will have the opportunity to briefly respond to the panel after their review of each application and answer panelist questions in a short Q & A session. This format, which was introduced in 2017, comes in direct response to feedback from our past applicants, who expressed a desire to bring their work to life for the panelists outside of the limits of the application and clarify information about which panelists may have questions. Note: Applicant participation is not required, but is strongly recommended.

ORDER OF REVIEW

First review - 10:15 am*
Art Therapy Studio
Collective Arts Network
Dunham Tavern
Ensemble Theater
Ingenuity

*Start times and breaks will take place at the discretion of the panel chair; subject to change.

FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS

Don’t want to miss your review? Follow our progress on Twitter and listen to our live stream on September 25.
WHAT TO EXPECT: SEPTEMBER 25

OBSERVE PANEL REVIEW

Your application will be reviewed for no more than ten minutes, following this sequence of actions:

- The panel chair calls upon the First Reader to begin the discussion by presenting an overview and assessment of the application, budget and support materials based on CAC’s Funding Criteria.
- The panel chair calls upon the Second Reader to continue the discussion by supporting, disputing or adding comments about the application that were not presented by the First Reader.
- The panel chair opens the discussion for full panel deliberation by asking for any new or different opinions about the application.
- The Panel Chair asks the panelists to submit their scores for the application.

RESPOND TO THE PANEL

- After the panel discusses your application, you will have a chance to respond, and clarify points from the review.
- Each organization may designate up to two (2) individuals to represent it. These individuals can be members of the staff or board of the organization.
- Your comments can last up to five (5) minutes.

Use this time to clarify any points of confusion, reinforce any important themes, or highlight an element of your application/work that you feel the panel missed.

You may also share new information about your organization not previously included in your application.

Q & A SESSION: PREPARE YOUR RESPONSES

- Following your brief remarks, panelists will engage your organization’s representatives in a brief Q & A session (no more than ten minutes).
- Panelists have been encouraged to prepare these questions in advance based on your application and its support materials, but may also have questions about your presentation in the moment. CAC staff will share preliminary panelist question with you ahead of time.
- Be prepared to answer questions about your application narratives, SMu | DataArts Funder Report, audit, organizational budget, and any other aspects of your work.
- CAC panel chairs will facilitate the Q & A to ensure a fair, respectful and punctual process.

END OF DAY: PUBLIC COMMENT

After the panel chairs adjourn the discussion and scoring is complete, CAC will hold an optional session for public comment on the grant program and the panel review process.

Audience members are encouraged to participate in the public comment session by attending in person or by submitting questions to CAC staff. Share your questions by using our online form at http://bit.ly/CAC-comment or by tweeting @CuyArtsC.
Panelists score each application on a point scale from 0 to 100 based on the following funding criteria:

**Public Benefit: 45 points**
An organization’s ability to meaningfully engage its community to achieve its mission.

**Artistic and Cultural Vibrancy: 35 points**
An organization’s ability to create quality, mission-driven work that inspires and challenges its community.

**Organizational Capacity: 20 points**
An organization’s ability to successfully manage resources to their best use now and for years to come.

Panelists will use the following scoring framework to score each application on the funding criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weak</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Benefit</strong></td>
<td>1 – 23</td>
<td>24 – 33</td>
<td>34 – 38</td>
<td>39 – 42</td>
<td>43 – 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artistic and Cultural Vibrancy</strong></td>
<td>1 – 18</td>
<td>19 – 25</td>
<td>26 – 29</td>
<td>30 – 32</td>
<td>33 – 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organizational Capacity</strong></td>
<td>1 – 10</td>
<td>11 – 14</td>
<td>15 – 16</td>
<td>17 – 18</td>
<td>19 – 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCORING DESCRIPTIONS**

**Exceptional:** The applicant has provided overwhelming evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is fully met. Responses are clear and directly address this funding criterion. The support materials are clear, highly relevant and lead to a deeper understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Strong:** The applicant has provided clear evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses are clear and address this funding criterion. The support materials are clear, highly relevant and lead to a deeper understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Good:** The applicant has provided sufficient evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses are generally clear, but do not consistently address this funding criterion. The support materials are relevant but provide only some understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Fair:** The applicant has provided limited evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses may not be clear and may not address this funding criterion. The support materials may not be relevant and may not provide additional understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Weak:** The applicant has provided insufficient evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses are unclear and/or do not address this funding criterion. The support materials may not be relevant and may not provide additional understanding of how the criterion is met.

**FINAL SCORE AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Applications that receive a 75 or higher move forward into the funding pool. CAC staff will tabulate the total scores and notify all applicants via email the week of October 14. Grant amounts will be confirmed at CAC’s Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 4 pm.
Panelists play a pivotal role in Cuyahoga Arts & Culture’s grantmaking process, serving as the independent group of outside experts that review and evaluate all applications. CAC staff devoted substantial time to secure a diverse and reputable roster of panelists.

*denotes previous service as a Cuyahoga Arts & Culture panelist

Dr. Antonio C. Cuyler (Tallahassee, Florida)

Dr. Antonio C. Cuyler is associate professor of arts administration, coordinator of the MA program in arts administration, and teaches doctoral and master’s students at Florida State University (FSU). Among the courses that he teaches is grant writing and development in the arts in which he developed the Arts Administration Service Learning Program (ASLP) to enhance his students’ development as grant writers. His grant writing and funding related publications appear in the Grant Professional Association Journal and the Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) Reader. Dr. Cuyler has also served on 12 grant panels and reviewed 275 grants for funding agencies such as the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Council on Culture & Arts (COCA), Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and U. S. Department of Education.

Jeff Garrett (Lansing, MI)

Jeff Garrett is the operational support program manager for the State of Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs. Previously, Jeff served as the director of the art school at the Flint Institute of Arts. He has teaching experience in Michigan Public Schools, has been adjunct faculty at Vincennes University, Saginaw Valley State University, Mott College, and was Head of the art and design department at Crowder College. Jeff received a master of fine arts degree in ceramics with distinction from Indiana State University.

Rebecca Kinslow (Nashville, TN)

Rebecca Kinslow is the community and organizational development director for Metro Arts, Nashville’s Office of Arts & Culture. With over 20 years of experience as an arts leader, she has specialized in event planning, marketing, community development, grantmaking, program management and organizational development in the nonprofit, higher education and government sectors. Kinslow leads the development, strategic planning and oversight of programs, partnerships and financial investments designed to support stronger arts & cultural organizations in Nashville. She oversees a $2.5 million annual public grant investment program, cultural and racial equity strategy, community arts programming and a wide network of partnerships that expand the mission of Metro Arts to drive a vibrant and equitable community through the arts. She holds an executive certificate in arts and cultural strategy and a M.S. in nonprofit leadership from University of Pennsylvania.
June Washikita O’Neill (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

June Washikita O’Neill currently works for Your Part-Time Controller, a firm that provides financial services for nonprofit organizations. She is the former executive director of the Philadelphia Cultural Fund and previously spent several years working in the nonprofit arts field before going to work for the Pew Charitable Trusts. She continued to work with individual artists as the first executive director of the Leeway Foundation and as the administrative director for the Civitela Ranieri Foundation in Umbria, Italy. Ms. O’Neill has served on numerous nonprofit boards and as a panelist for the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Her favorite activity is playing the Japanese taiko drums. Her husband is called Tim, her son is called Luke and her dog is called Molly. She holds a BS in arts management from Northern Arizona University.

Kirkston Tyrone Spann (Chicago, Illinois)

Kirkston Tyrone Spann’s professional experience includes over 22 years in the nonprofit and higher education fields. He currently serves as the president for the Transformative Nonprofit Solutions Consultant company. Mr. Spann worked for the Foundations of East Chicago for 18 years managing their scholarship and grant programs. He also served as a consultant for Lake Area United Way and as the program director for the Gary Alumni Pathway for Students organization. Additionally, he worked as the 21st Century Scholar coordinator and associate director of admissions for Ivy Tech’s Lake County Campus. He attended Florida A & M University in Tallassee, Florida where he received a bachelor’s of science degree in architectural studies. Mr. Spann continued his education at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana where he received an MBA in real estate finance.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for attending the 2020-21 General Operating Support panel review. To learn more about Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, our staff or Board, visit our website at cacgrants.org.